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THE ANTIDOTE



FOR PAPAL POISON

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ROME SUPPRESSING FREE SPEECH BY BLOODSHED

Campaign to Make America Catholic Brings About Sad Tragedy at Marshall, Texas---Ex-Priest Wm. Black Murdered in Cold Blood by Knights of Columbus---One Knight Killed and Another Fatally Wounded---Revival of Terrorist Tactics Indicates That Rome Prefers War to Peace

THE news of the tragedy about which The Menace is going to speak was given to the world on the morning of the 4th instant by the Associated Press in about the following fashion:

Marshall, Tex., Feb. 3.—William Black, traveling lecturer, and John Rogers, a contractor, are dead and John Copeland, cashier of a bank here, is not expected to live as a result of a shooting affray here early tonight in Black's room at a hotel.

This, in fact, was the dispatch that attracted the attention of the writer early Thursday morning, and the dispatch that caused him to take the first train for Marshall in order that the whole truth in the case might be ascertained.

The press dispatch quoted above tells the whole story so far as the bare facts are concerned. You can tell from this dispatch that two men are dead and another mortally wounded. You even know who the men are, and what their occupations are—but further than that a waiting world must be left in darkness.

Practically every daily newspaper in the country carried this dispatch. The managing editor of every paper that handled the dispatch knew the significance of it, knew the details—but he dares not give them to his readers.

Because he is in the same danger that William Black was in when he went to Marshall. Not because he is in a Roman Catholic community, necessarily, but because the Roman Catholics are just as they were, and are, in Marshall. Not many, but enough to bluff, bully, bribe and intimidate. A half a dozen Knights of Columbus can make life miserable for a thousand decent men who want to obey the law and do the right thing.

The news of this tragedy was it on the wire by the Associated Press (it should be the assassin's press), and the minute the telegraph editor got it he knew that it was loaded with dynamite. The telegraph editor soothed it and smoothed it and padded it with cotton in every conceivable place, and passed it over to the managing editor, and when the managing editor got through with it, it read something like this:

William Black, who is said to be an ex-priest, and John Rogers, who is supposed to be a contractor, are both supposed to be dead, and John Copeland who is thought to be cashier of some bank in the city is alleged to be mortally wounded, as a result of a little unpleasantness which is alleged to have occurred in a certain hotel in the city where Black is stopping. It is alleged that Rogers and Copeland are Knights of Columbus, an organization that only exists in the minds of bigoted Protestants, and it is thoroughly believed that Black was an Ex-Priest and was defaming the 'holy' Catholic religion. We are not sure that anything happened at all, but we believe it did, and if it did, and if it is detrimental to the Protestant people, and likely to boom business for the 'holy' Catholic church, and the mythical mystery known as the Knights of Columbus, we are willing to publish it and want the world to know about it."

I didn't quote the above from any newspaper—please bear that in mind—but it sounds like it might have come from the average daily. In fact, while it is my own interpretation, it conveys just as much information about the Marshall tragedy as you have

been able to get from any paper you take.

And I would like to add this: The editors of the daily papers are not to blame for these subtleties. They are victims of circumstances and conditions, just the same as you and I. They know the Catholic church. They know that she constitutes only fourteen per cent of the population of the country, but that she is concrete, active, alert, dangerous and unscrupulous, while the Protestant people are asleep. They know that their lives and their jobs depend on their attitude toward the beast, and for that reason you are compelled to take the soft soap subterfuge of the daily press for the truth, and get the facts as best you can from between the lines.

The History of the Tragedy
For the last several months William Black has been lecturing under the auspices of the American Federation of Patriotic Societies in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and other northern states. From what I can learn Black had never been in the South before. He didn't know, or hadn't thought, about the case of the illustrious William C. Brann—the literary genius of the age who made the mistake of starting the Iconoclast in Waco, Texas—a six-shooter locality, and in a six-shooter age.

He didn't know that he was operating in a state where, until a few years ago at least, a man's standing, credibility and reputation was estimated by the number of notches on his trusty Colts. And this isn't said in the spirit of criticism for the state of Texas. Texas can answer for the conditions that prevail there—and she can answer nobly—and I am not going to dwell on them. I am going to speak of the facts in this particular case—the facts in this tragedy—the facts in this campaign to make America Catholic, manned at the present time by Joseph Patrick Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson and chief adviser of the administration—the man who ordered the recent prosecutions of The Menace in the Federal Courts at Joplin; the man who managed the defeat of the Immigration Bill; the man who cracks the whip over Congress as you and I would wield the lash over a yoke of docile oxen.

But I had started to speak of Black, the man.

Whenever an individual steps forth from the inconsequential crowd to play an aggressive part in the drama of the world's doings—the man of action and achievement, whose importance is measured by his initiative; a man who does things and proves his potency—he invariably inspires curiosity in the human mind concerning his personality. This is not prurience or impertinence, but a logical and legitimate interest, normal and wholesome. It is the expression of an intelligent recognition of the intimate influence of human conduct upon human character. Wherefore William Black deserves a little description and a little introduction to the people who read this narrative.

Black could not be referred to as being either big, little, old or young. He was the average mediocre man, physically, broad of shoulder and lean of loin, about 45 years of age, lithe and pliant as a panther, with the spring and balance of an athlete. There was grace in his gesture, like the rhythm of a perfect poem. His manner was suggestive of the well-trained scholar, somewhat military, nothing more. This suggestion, without robbing him of any naturalness and grace, gave to his movements a certain

ty and precision that was very satisfying, while his abruptest actions had a seeming of deliberation calculated to deceive the most acute observer.

Black's life and personal habits are under surveillance of course. If the Roman Catholic blackguard press is capable of anything in the world it is capable of villainy. If expedient for its purpose it would attempt to turn the feeble ermine of Jesus Christ an inky black.

The papists have never failed when manufactured evidence was needed.

They have never failed when perjury was the only alternative.

THEY HAVE NEVER FAILED WHEN MURDER WAS THE BEST EXPEDIENT!

Lying!

Look at Marshall!

Of course we are not lying! We started in to narrate the details of this awful tragedy. What are the facts in the case?

Here they are:

William Black went to Marshall on the afternoon of February 2nd. The county court house was secured, and on Tuesday night he gave a lecture on Romanism—the very kind of a lecture, no doubt, that you have heard—the kind of a lecture that I would give, or that any other man would give that knew what he was talking about.

He advertised that he would lecture Wednesday night.

He supposed that he would lecture Wednesday night.

He presumed that the Constitution of the United States means what it says when it employs this language: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

And he had no reason to believe that the people of Marshall, Texas, would violate the Constitution of the United States.

And the real people of Marshall have no desire to do this, for he it understood that with the exception of the few Roman Catholic thugs that inhabit the place it is a clean town—a good town—one of the best in the country.

Anyway, on Wednesday evening Mr. Black, Mr. C. F. Hall and Miss Sadie Black, adopted daughter of William Black, went out for a short walk about town. They returned to the Hotel Marshall, on the southeast corner of the square, about six o'clock—five-fifty-five, to be exact—and took the elevator for their rooms on the second floor of the hotel—rooms 103, 104 and 105.

The evidence which has already been developed in the preliminary hearing, and which we have a right to print, shows that as they started down the hall of the hotel to their rooms they observed two men talking; that further down the hall they passed two other men, talking, and that on nearing the room one of the men in the hall intercepted Mr. Black, who was in front, and said: "Is this Mr. Black?"

The answer, "Yes."

"Can we see you in your room?"

"Yes."

At this all parties went into the room.

Mr. Black sat down on a stool near the center of the room and John Rogers opened the conversation with this language:

"Mr. Black, you have been giving anti-Catholic lectures here?"

Black—"Yes."



WILLIAM BLACK

Rogers—"Well, you are not going to speak tonight, and you are going to leave town."

Black, attempting to rise from his seat, said: "I am going to speak tonight, and I am not going to leave town."

At this juncture Rogers took hold of Black, Copeland shot him through the heart and it is believed that Ryan shot him in the abdomen. At the same time that Black was shot, C. F. Hall, Black's traveling companion, shot Rogers through the head and killed him, and also shot Copeland three times, one bullet taking effect in the abdomen, one in the shoulder and one in the arm. The doctors consider that he is mortally wounded.

The evidence shows that the aggressors in the affair were John Rogers, John Copeland, George Ryan, George Tier and Harry Winn, all Roman Catholics and Knights of Columbus in good standing, and all armed with automatic pistols.

Personnel of the Terrorists

Marshall is a town of thirteen thousand inhabitants—a good town, too—and has a real live daily paper—the Marshall Messenger. This is what the Messenger had to say about John Rogers, the Knight of Columbus terrorist who was killed by Mr. Hall, companion of Mr. Black:

Mr. Rogers was born in Lynhurst, New Jersey, May 3, 1878, and would thus have been 37 years of age next May. After receiving his education in his home town and working there for several years he joined his uncle, James Higgins, in the contracting business here fourteen years ago, and four years ago entered into a partnership with Frank Moos, the firm doing several large building jobs, in this section, the last big local contract having been the Hotel Marshall in which he lost his life.

Mr. Rogers, after coming to Marshall, married Miss Grace O'Donnell, and to them five children have been born, all of whom are living. He also leaves three brothers and two sisters, all residents of Lynhurst, N. J. Mr. Rogers was a member of the Catholic church and had always conducted himself as a good citizen would have been expected to do, and his business dealings were according to the accepted ethics among business men.

Very little information was obtained about the other members of the mob. George Ryan was born and raised in Marshall, is about twenty-four years of age, single, and engaged in the practice of law.

John Copeland has lived in Marshall practically all his life and was cashier of the State Bank of Marshall, an institution which is dominantly Roman Catholic, but which was not known as such until after the tragedy.

George Tier and Harry Winn are iron moulders and very little information could be secured as to their past history. It is sufficient to know that they, together with Rogers, Copeland and Ryan belonged to the local lodge of the Knights of Columbus, numbering

about fifty in membership, located at 203½ E. Austin St., Marshall.

While the country is shocked with the awfulness of this tragedy and the eyes of the world are on Marshall, it is well to remember that the good people of Marshall—the Christian citizenship—do not condone this affair and are not in sympathy with the tactics and methods of Roman Catholic terrorists who attempted to permanently suppress free speech in that locality by the murder of William Black.

As stated before, Marshall is a town of about 13,000 inhabitants, the county seat of Harrison County, and while the scene of many tragedies it is not a typical frontier community where a man's standing is estimated by the number of men he has murdered.

Practically every Protestant denomination is represented in the city, and it should be borne in mind that there is only one Catholic church in the town and that the Roman Catholic voting population does not exceed 150.

This fact alone is significant in that it shows how a very small amount of poison can contaminate the whole loaf.

One would naturally think that the safest place in the world to deliver an address in which criticism of this organization was involved would be in a place where ninety-nine per cent of the people were of a different faith. But not so! The spirit of the Inquisition so dominates every man who is steeped in the principles and teachings of this pagan creed, and it matters not what his environment may be or how good the influence of the community, his prejudice is so surcharged with dynamic hate that when the torch of reason is applied the explosion is inevitable, and the results, be they ever so serious, are not taken into consideration.

Marshall, however, is no different from any other town or community which happens to be infested with this class of citizens. The fact that it is unfortunate in this regard is no more unusual than the fact that many other communities are likewise unfortunate. It will be remembered that Marshall is one of the oldest towns in the state, that it has been noted for its activity in the interests of education, religion, civic pride and everything that tends to constitute a clean, honorable, upright and law-abiding community. At the present time it is adorned with beautiful church buildings, school buildings, libraries, etc., and has furnished at least two governors, one lieutenant governor, one United States senator and for a long time has had the reputation of maintaining the ablest bar in the state of Texas.

The newspaper reports of this tragedy convey a meager idea of the chagrin and humiliation which the citizens of Marshall feel over this unfortunate affair.

We realize that while many of our readers will have read an account of this tragedy in the daily press they will feel more deeply concerned over what The Menace has to say about the matter than any other paper, and for that reason it is our earnest desire to impress upon them the fact that while this place appears to be the Lexington of what threatens to be another American revolution, the town itself and the citizens of the community surrounding should not be held responsible for the seeming lawless conduct of this papist clique, the wanton, modern defendants of their orthodox institution, the bloody inquisition.

The personal facts attaching to an affair of this kind are always interesting, and for that reason we might state that while the writer did not arrive on the scene

until after the preliminary hearing in the case had been held, and the body of Mr. Black had been shipped, he did meet the surviving participants in the tragedy and had an opportunity to form an opinion based on personal contact.

All manner of rumors are rife concerning the character of William Black, as well as that of Mr. Hall and Sadie Black, the adopted daughter.

The Catholic press will attempt to show that Black was not only not an ex-priest, but that he was a man of questionable character, and bore a shady reputation. The Menace does not feel called upon to defend a dead man, but it wishes to counteract in advance the falsehood and abuse that will be heaped upon the man by stating briefly that it is in possession of the facts, and if it appears necessary we can produce his record and show conclusively that it is unblemished.

Mr. Black was born and reared in Virginia, educated for the priesthood by Catholic parents and served in that capacity, after reaching his majority, for three years and seven months. Like hundreds of other honest men, he became disgusted with the profession and renounced his affiliations. After leaving the priesthood he married and located in Bellaire, Ohio, and for the last several months has been lecturing under the auspices of the American Federation of Patriotic Societies whose headquarters are in Minneapolis, Minn.

Clarence F. Hall, companion of Mr. Black is thirty-six years of age and was born in Deepsteep, Ga. He is a member of the Knights of Luther, Knights Patriotic Military Fraternity, and is unmarried. He has resided in Minneapolis, Minn., for the last few years and joined Mr. Black at Little Rock, Ark., early in January. It will be remembered that Hall is held under \$2,500 bond for the shooting of John Rogers, who is dead, and of John Copeland who is thought to be mortally wounded. It is a significant fact to be remembered that in setting the bonds in this case Hall was only required to give a twenty-five hundred dollar bond, while the aggressors in the case were given bonds of five and ten thousand dollars each. Another thing that indicates the state of public opinion in Marshall is the fact that Hall's bond has been signed by practically every lead-

ing business man in the city and is worth several hundred times its face.

The grand jury which had just closed a session previous to the Marshall tragedy has been reconvened and is in session as these lines are written. What the results of their findings will be, of course, is not known, but if Hall is indicted, which is not likely, he will be ably defended and furnished ample protection while in Marshall for trial. He has retained M. M. O'Banion, a reputable attorney of Marshall, who has practiced law in the city since 1910 and was formerly assistant prosecuting attorney.

It developed in the preliminary hearing that Sadie Black, the young lady who was traveling with Mr. Black and in the room at the time this tragedy occurred, was an adopted daughter. The writer interviewed Miss Black at length and ascertained all the facts connected with her legal adoption to Mr. Black as well as a brief history of her life. Her name previous to the adoption was Sadie Allison. She was seventeen years of age and was born at Pine Bluff, Ark.

It was developed in the testimony at the preliminary hearing that Miss Black was placed in the House of the Good Shepherd at Hot Springs, Ark., on July 8, 1914, and owing to the fact that conditions there were unbearable she made her escape on the night of November 2. It appears that she was hiding among friends in Hot Springs when Mr. Black appeared there for a series of lectures. It seems that she was attracted by these lectures and appealed to Mr. Black for protection and advice and was legally adopted by him on the 29th day of January this year; the adoption papers, in fact, were on Mr. Black's person when he was shot and were penetrated by the bullet which caused his death. Mr. Black had already made arrangements to send the young lady to his wife at Bellaire, Ohio, as soon as he had finished his Texas engagements.

Another evidence of the Texas spirit was shown in the fact that the day following the tragedy leading church and society women all over the city called Miss Black by telephone and visited her in person, expressing their sympathy, and many of them leaving beautiful floral offerings.

Who Are the Trouble Makers?

For several months the Knights of Columbus have been parading an alleged grievance before the public. They have denounced what they allege to be a spurious oath, and they have published what they allege to be the genuine obligation assumed by their membership.

At the same time they have fiercely assailed the patriotic press, asserting repeatedly that this opposition to the activities of Roman Catholic organizations in American politics is a strife and trouble maker calculated to create ill will between Protestants and Catholics who otherwise would live happily together in peace and amity.

They have been so vehement in their demand for peace as to insist that The Menace should be excluded from the mails as the only means of attaining so desirable an end. With zeal unparalleled they have carried their fight for peace into Congress, and have demanded the equivalent of a censorship over the entire press of the nation as a means of quieting that small fraction of the

press that opposes the political program of Rome.

They have induced Protestant clergymen to join in the cry and pretense of persecution; and when Washington Gladden took the cue from their suggestions, saying that "We Protestants and Catholics must learn to live together" the sentiment was published far and wide as a rebuke to the "nasty Missouri sheet" which they would have known as the chief sinner which has done everything that it should not have done, and has left undone everything that it should have done.

And now, with all these preachments in behalf of peace upon their tongues, and with all their protestations of fealty to law and order, members of this same order, the Knights of Columbus, follow William Black, a peaceful lecturer against Romanism, into his room in a hotel at Marshall, Texas, and murder him in cold blood.

Do these Knights of Columbus imagine that such deeds as that will make for peace? Can they think that a series of mobbings

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